

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, the Examiner is requested to withdraw the rejections and allow Claims 28-59 and 61, the only claims pending and currently under examination in this application.

Claims 28 and 56 have been amended to solely to further clarify that the claims are directed to a method of in situ synthesis of polymeric ligands on a surface of a solid support. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments. As no new matter has been added by way of these amendments, entry thereof by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

In maintaining the rejections of record, the Examiner asserted that the claim language still encompassed methods in which oligonucleotides are prefabricated and deposited pre-made onto different locations of a substrate.

While not agreeing with the position of the office, the claims have been amended to clarify that the final array product includes the same substrate on which the oligonucleotides are produced. For example, Claim 28 has been amended to specify product array comprises "said" substrate that is first mentioned in step (a) of the claim.

As such, it is believed that the rejection may be withdrawn and that all of the claims are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks above, the Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone Bret Field at (650) 327-3400.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1078.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 2, 2007

By: /Bret E. Field, Reg. No. 37,620/
Bret E. Field
Registration No. 37,620

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Legal Department, DL429
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 7599
Loveland, CO 80537-0599

F:\DOCUMENT\AGIL\189 (10031551-1)\10031551-1 (AGIL-189) response to accompany rce.DOC